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THE JERUSALEM POST
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1953
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SAMIT-JUNIOR
THE PEN THAT IS AS GOOD AS IT LOOKS
PRICE (INC. TAX) IL. 2 625/1000
RECOMMENDED FOR SCHOOL USE.

Marginal Column

By N. D. GROSS

No one who has lived for some time in a country predominantly Christian can ever forget the great festival observed tomorrow in the West and some days later in the East. Memories come thick and fast; the carols in the streets, the fairyland shop displays, the church bells, the inspired general jollity, the all-pervading good neighbourliness, the pantomime, the decorated pine trees, the turkey and the pudding, the beer and the whiskey, all that remarkable welding together by Christian thought of Greek, Teutonic and Nordic paganism. But even here, in this predominantly Jewish country, where the visible signs of that international celebration are negligible, we are made conscious of it as the cynosure of Christian eyes. For our land is the scene of the wanderings of Jesus of Nazareth whose birth the festival marks, and we are probably the only people in the world able to understand, even now, the words of Jesus in his own tongue.

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With all this, the world is mainly ignorant of the fact that most of the Holy Places associated with Jesus are not in Israel, but in Jordan. Even such a negation of irredentism as the London "Jewish Chronicle" in a recent quiz for children returned Bethlehem, David's city and the legendary scene of Jesus' nativity, to Jewish hands, although we who live here are only too painfully aware of the border that cuts off the New City of Jerusalem from the Holy City and its hinterland.

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It is Israel that Christianity regards as the Holy Land, and we pay dearly for it in the "special treatment" we meet at its hands. The Prime Minister of no other country could be accused by the British Foreign Office of "one-sidedness" as was Mr. Ben Gurion in his broadcast statement on the Kibya affair. Even the generally sympathetic "Observer" could not refrain from saying of that affair: "But of Israel we expect..." When the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry on Palestine in 1946 heard evidence as to the existence of a lido on Lake Kinneret, an ordinary holiday resort for Palestinians but, as the Sea of Galilee, holy to Christians, the British public was genuinely shocked.

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Although our national policy need not be deflected by the opinions of others, these opinions have to be considered as a key to understanding the otherwise meaningless aberrations of Western policy towards us. Of course, their main interest, as of all Powers, is power, and it would be well were they in this respect to beware of that hypocrisy of which the founders of their religion so unjustly accused the Pharisees. But at the same time there is a real feeling in the West, exploited by politicians, that Israel is occupying Christian territory. There is a tendency to be perceived in some circles to resent the modernization which Jews have brought to the Holy Land and to deplore the disappearance of its old-world picturesqueness, which, in actual fact, was nothing but squalor, insanitary conditions and the stagnation of primitive ways of life. This attitude is perhaps at the back of the minds of Security Council delegates engaged in discussing the Syrian complaint on the exploitation of the waters of the Jordan River by a hydroelectric power project. Over the Christmas recess, while a resolution acceptable to the Council is under consideration in private negotiations, it is earnestly to be hoped that the United Kingdom, which is Christian *de jure*, and the United States, Christian *de facto*, will ponder deeply and honestly, and realize that the Holy Land will be holier if washed with water, revivified with electric current, and enriched with vegetation and industry to ease, in some small measure, the ache of world famine.

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If the Western delegates permit this measure of goodwill to all men, then, God rest you merry, gentlemen.

Jerusalem, December 24.

Austrian Jews Protest

VIENNA, Wednesday (Reuter). — The Jewish community in Austria has protested to the Hungarian Minister here, Mr. Lenard [illegible], against persecution of Jewish leaders in Hungary, and has asked for the release of three men now on trial in Budapest.

Zionist General Council to Open Today in Capital

The opening session of the 1954 meeting of the Zionist General Council will take place this evening in the Jewish Agency building in Jerusalem. During the eight to 10-day parley, the delegates will decide upon such matters as structural reform of the Zionist Organisation, education in the Diaspora, the date of the next World Zionist Congress, the problem of the double *shekel*, and the strengthening of settlement and youth *aliya* in Israel.

Mr. Joseph Sprinzak, Chairman of the Council, will open this evening's session with a memorial for the Jewish martyrs killed in Europe. Mr. Zalman Shazar will then eulogize the late Hayim Greenberg, who was an American member of the Council.

IL.117m. Budget

Following this, the delegates will be addressed by the Chairmen of the Jewish Agency Executive, Mr. Berl Locker and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, who will report on the accomplishments of the Agency during the previous year. Dr. Giora Josephthal, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency, will discuss the details of the IL.117m. budget which has been decided upon for the year 5714.

After the first session, the Conference will be split up into committees, each of which will deal with a particular aspect of the agenda.

After a session yesterday that lasted until midnight, the Agency Executive will meet again this morning to hammer out final details for the meeting.

(Zionist Problems — P. 4)

Schapira's Remains In Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — The remains of Professor Herman Zvi Schapira, early Zionist leader and initiator of the idea of the Jewish National Fund and the Hebrew University, tonight are lying in state in the hall of the Fund's Tel Aviv office in the street named after him.

From 11 o'clock in the morning crowds of local residents, including many old-timers and classes of schoolchildren, filed past the black-draped coffin, next to which an honour guard of Boy Scouts was mounted.

At a memorial meeting held beside the catafalque this evening, eulogies were delivered by Mr. A. [illegible], Chairman of the Israel J.N.F. Committee, the Chief Rabbi; and Mayor Haim Levanon.

The coffin, which was brought to Israel by El Al yesterday, lay in state in the Jewish Agency Building at Lydda Airport last night with a police honour guard posted around it. At 8.30 this morning Mayor Levanon, representatives of the J.N.F. and of the committee which arranged for the reinterment of the Zionist leader in Israel, went to the Airport to escort the *cortege* to Tel Aviv.

Sharett Fails To End Gov't Talks

The Prime Minister-Designate, Mr. Moshe Sharett, yesterday attempted to bring the coalition negotiations to an end when he invited the General Zionists, the Progressives and Hapoel Hamizrahi for separate interviews in the Knesset lobbies. No solution resulted, however, as the General Zionists are reported to be adamant on the "5% clause."

The Progressives equally refuse to consider any compromise, intimating that they would rather be out of the Government for the time being.

The General Zionist Party Executive will meet in Tel Aviv today.

Quake in Colombia

BOGOTA, Wednesday (Reuter). — Three townships were reported destroyed and a number of persons killed in an earthquake which shook the seaboard province of Narino, in the Southwestern corner of Colombia during the night, according to incomplete reports reaching here.

The townships included Tuquerres and Guatarilla. Tuquerres was devastated in the 1938 earthquake and was still being rebuilt.

UK Anxious for Talks On Peaceful Atom Use

LONDON, Wednesday (UP). — Britain made it plain today that she wants to meet with the U.S. as soon as possible to push forward to early Atomic peace talks with the Soviet Union. The British and West Europeans reacted with cautious hopefulness to the surprise Soviet acceptance of President Eisenhower's proposal for secret negotiations on Atomic materials.

As the Western world studied the Russian Note, Soviet and satellite radios and newspapers blared the news of the move, as well as direct excerpts from Mr. Eisenhower's speech, to the peoples behind the Iron Curtain.

A Foreign Office spokesman said today that Britain will consult with other Western Governments, especially the U.S., and hinted that these meetings may start as soon as the study of the Soviet offer has been completed by Sir Winston Churchill and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

Official French reaction was far less optimistic. "Before the text of the note was in our hands," a Quai d'Orsay spokesman said, "we were quite enthusiastic about the news. Now that the text has arrived, our enthusiasm has been somewhat chilled."

Nevertheless, the French observed that the Soviet Note referred to the "forthcoming" Berlin Conference — the first indication from the Kremlin that it is willing to attend the Four-Power Foreign Ministers' Conference.

The British are willing to take the Soviet offer at its face value, so that an early meeting can be arranged at which all sides can exchange freely their views on Atomic control, informed sources said. They feel that a prolonged exchange of Notes with the Soviets would only hamper the projected negotiations.

Churchill, Malik Prepare for Berlin

LONDON, Wednesday (Reuter). — Sir Winston Churchill set the diplomatic world guessing again today by entertaining Mr. Jacob Malik, Russian Ambassador to Britain, to luncheon at Chequers, his country house.

The Soviet Envoy, who is returning to Moscow shortly on a visit, spent several hours with the Prime Minister. Earlier in the day he had conferred with Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

Mr. Malik's 62 kilometre motor journey from London to Chequers came as a surprise to diplomats here. There was immediate speculation on whether Sir Winston pursued with the Ambassador the idea of a personal meeting between himself and Soviet Premier Georgi Malenkov.

Diplomatic sources here took it for granted that Sir Winston and Mr. Malik discussed the forthcoming Berlin Conference between the Foreign Ministers of the Western Powers and Russia. They are also assumed to have touched on the question of Communist China's place in world affairs. Every recent Soviet statement and Note to the Western Powers has pinpointed Moscow's demand for the inclusion of the Peking Government at world conference tables.

M.A.C. Blames Israel For Attack in Hebron Area

By the votes of the two Jordan representatives and that of the U.N. Chairman against the two votes of Israel, the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission yesterday held "Israel armed non-regulars" guilty of an attack on a Beduin camp near Tarkumiya, in the Hebron area, on Monday. One Beduin was wounded in a clash which took place there that evening.

The Israel delegates stated that there was no proof of any "attack." According to eye-witness evidence given to U.N. officials, one of the Arabs had seen "three shapes" approaching the encampment. He ran to a neighbouring tent shouting "the Jews are coming."

The Beduin then rushed out and approached the "shapes" outside the camp. One of them was injured in the ensuing firing.

The text of the resolution passed yesterday reads:

"The crossing of the Demarcation Lines by Israel armed non-regulars and the attack on a Jordan Beduin camp in the Tarkumiya area deep in Jordan territory on 21.12.53 at about 21.30 hours by automatic weapons and grenades, resulting in the serious wounding of one of the refugees, is a breach of article III, Paragraph 2 of the General Armistice Agreement.

"The M.A.C. calls upon the Israel authorities to take immediate measures to prevent such or other aggressions against Jordan in the future."

NEABS reports that the Commission is to continue its discussions on two other Jordan complaints on Monday, following the Christmas holidays. They concern the killing, allegedly by Israelis, of two Jordanians near Tarkumiya and the killing of a woman and the wounding of a man in Hebron.

"A-Diffa," the Old City daily, quotes military experts as stating that the latest series of raids make it clear that the attacking parties had undergone "commando" training and were prepared to "sacrifice their lives" to carry out their missions.

Jordan's acting senior M.A.C. delegate, Major Mohammed Itshak, said during yesterday's M.A.C. session that the Hebron area incidents prove that Israel is conducting "guerrilla warfare" against Jordan. This is aimed at creating chaos among Jordanians and paralysing the Christmas tourist movement in the country. Major Itshak also charged that Israel's delegate to the Security Council is creating a "poisoned" atmosphere against Jordan, the paper reports.

"Falastin," another Old City daily, in giving further details of the Hebron raid, complains that the Israel M.A.C. delegate failed to appear on the border to facilitate the investigation. The guerrillas entered within the municipal limits of Hebron, 17 kilometres inside Jordan-held territory, and attacked the house of Abdul Afu el Hamouri, a municipal tax collector.

The British military attache in Amman and several foreign correspondents visited the scene on Tuesday, it was said.

The first meeting of the newly formed Jordan Supreme Defence Council, composed of several Ministers and General John Glubb, Legion Commander-in-Chief, took place in Amman yesterday, the paper reports.

Wounded Infiltrator Found

BEERSHEBA, Wednesday. — An infiltrator, wounded in the leg, was found by Police last night in the western Negev. He was brought to the hospital here and will be tried when he recovers.

Marauders stole 22 olive saplings, valued at IL.220, from a settlement in the western Negev last night.

NO CHANGE IN EXCISE

A Treasury official told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that no change in the Excise Tax on alcoholic beverages is being considered. Rumours to this effect have been widespread.

The official pointed out that on Tuesday the Knesset Finance Committee had approved the continuance of the status quo with regard to this tax.

Egypt Confiscates Clothing for Israel

The Egyptian authorities at Port Said have confiscated 2,000 tons of clothing destined for Israel aboard the s.s. Trinton, a Norwegian ship, ANA reports. Neither the country of origin of the shipment nor the consignee was mentioned.

Three weeks ago Egypt promulgated a law providing for the confiscation of foodstuffs and all other commodities intended to raise "the war potential of Zionists in Palestine."

U.S. Resisting Syrian Veto

By JESSE ZEL LURIE,
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

UNITED NATIONS, Wednesday. — Israel delegate Abba Eban was a lonely figure sitting in the Security Council chamber during the long recesses yesterday while the abortive negotiations for the amendments went on in the back room. But he had powerful support in the conference chamber where the American delegation stood fast against any amendment giving Syria the right to veto Israel's resumption of the Jordan River hydroelectric work.

Lebanese delegate, Charles Malik, played a curious game negotiating all day to get some modification of Paragraph 11 to which the Big Powers could agree, although he did not say that he would vote for the amended resolution; and obviously he would not do so unless it stated that Syrian consent was necessary, which he did not dare to suggest. The British and French delegations seemed willing to accept one of Malik's suggestions to instruct General Bennike to "consult Syria and Israel," but U.S. delegate Henry Lodge was adamant.

If the American delegation continues to stand firm, it is thought that the present Western resolution might receive seven votes next week, with Colombia and Greece following the American lead.

Bennike Hopeful Of Agreement

NEW YORK, Wednesday (Reuter). — Major General Vagn Bennike, Chief of Staff of the U.N. Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine, left here today for Brussels on his way to Jerusalem.

He had spent two months in the U.S. during which he appeared before the U.N. Security Council in connection with the border disputes between Israel Syria and Jordan.

Asked if he thought a solution might be reached, General Bennike said: I hope so; I think so; I think they will arrive at an agreement." Questioned about the possible basis for an agreement, he replied, "I don't know, it's a secret."

The General stated that he would not return here for the resumption of discussions by the Security Council on December 29.

Asked whether the resolution of censure adopted by the U.N. against Israel on the Kibya affair was made on his recommendation, he answered, "I made no recommendation. I was only an impartial witness. I made no proposal or suggestions of that kind."

Lebanon Said Centre of Anti-Israel Agitation

By SHAYA SHAPIRO, Jerusalem Post Knesset Correspondent

Lebanon has become a centre of pan-Arabism and anti-Israel agitation, Mr. Lavon, Acting-Minister of Defence, charged yesterday in the Knesset. Because of the great expectations placed by the Jews of Palestine on Lebanon, Israel had ceded to her a large area conquered by Israel forces during the War of Independence. Now, however, Lebanese leaders are outdoing each other in their cries for the annihilation of Israel.

The charge was made when Mr. Lavon answered a motion put forward by Mr. Rustum Bastuni (Mapam) that the destruction of Kfar Biram on the Lebanese frontier be put on the Knesset agenda. The inhabitants of Biram, who belong to the Maronite Christian Church, had not taken up arms against the Jews during the War of Independence, and the authorities have promised that they could return to their native village. However, villagers were not permitted to do so, Mr. Bastuni said. The policy of chasing villagers out of their homes is, however, undermining Arab relations with the Jews, he added.

Maronite Friendship

The cordial relations which had existed for many years between the Jews and the Lebanese Maronites have not been forgotten, the Acting Minister of Defence told Mr. Bastuni. In the case of Biram, however, as well as in some other similar instances the exigencies of State security could not be overlooked. In the great colonization effort going on in this country, the old order sometimes is disturbed. The villagers of Biram would be well advised to accept land in another part of the country, where they could prosper undisturbed. The motion to hold a debate was voted down by the coalition, with Herut abstaining.

The incident in Nazareth last week, when Military Police [illegible] demonstrators from the offices of the [illegible] took up a good part of the Knesset's time yesterday, as Dr. M. Sneh (Left Socialist) and Mr. S. Mikunis (Communist) moved a debate on what they called the "Nazareth disturbances." They alleged that the Military Police had fired into a crowd of unemployed who had been refused movement permits out of Nazareth. The motion was voted down by the coalition members and the Le'ahdut Ha'avodah part of Mapam, after Mr. Lavon said that the "Nazareth disturbances were "staged by the Communists in anticipation of that town's forthcoming municipal elections." More such "performances," Mr. Lavon added, are to be expected in the near future, until the elections take place.

No Police Charge

He denied that the police had charged into the crowd: the only Military Police officer on duty had fired into the air when the demonstrators instigated by Communist leaders, refused to leave. The Communist member and the Left Socialist asked for a parliamentary inquiry committee, and Mr. I. Bar-Yehuda (Mapam) moved to refer the matter to the Interior Committee. Both moves were defeated by the House.

Replying to Mr. M. Vilner (Communist), who moved to debate the restriction of movement of Arabs in areas under military control, Mr. Lavon said that the measure was necessary to enable the authorities to know the whereabouts of the Arab population. The issue of passes is as liberal as possible, and in Galilee, for instance, where a little over 100,000 Arabs live, over 20,000 permanent passes had been issued.

Inferno Mirage

The fact that so many thousands wish to enter Israel, and so few Arabs express the wish to cross into Arab-held territory in itself is proof that the "stories in the vein of Dante's Inferno" on the condition of Arabs in Israel which are being circulated by Communists, are devoid of any reality, Mr. Lavon added.

The Minister of Agriculture Mr. P. Naphtali, agreed to hold a debate in the House on the agricultural planning of the state, as moved by Deputy-Speaker Mr. Z. Shepher.

A motion to discuss in the House the closing of the Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, was voted down by the Knesset. It accepted the suggestion of Acting Minister of Education Mr. M. Shasett, to refer the matter to a committee.

Rene Coty Elected French President on 13th Ballot

Conservative from Perfume Family

VERSAILLES, Wednesday (Reuter). — M. Rene Coty, Conservative Senator, was elected President of France on the 13th ballot here this evening. He received 477 votes. Socialist Marcel Naegelen received 329 votes. M. Coty is a Vice-President of the Senate.

The end of the marathon came with predestined thoroughness once right-wing groups had come to an agreement.

Moderate Conservative Premier Joseph Laniel had led most of the way and once came to within 22 votes of the necessary absolute majority. But powerful "Stop Laniel" forces blocked his success.

This morning, Overseas Minister Louis Jacquinot was brought in by Conservative groups to replace M. Laniel. He polled only 338 votes on the 11th ballot as against 372 for Socialist Marcel Naegelen, who had been runner-up all the way. M. Jacquinot was then hastily dropped in favour of M. Coty for the 12th ballot in the afternoon. Gaullists then joined forces with Conservatives and propelled M. Coty forward to earn 442 votes, the highest recorded in the 12 ballots. M. Naegelen slipped back to 333. The 13th ballot was held almost immediately afterwards and M. Coty was pushed in.

Thus ended the seven-day battle which had brought down popular wrath on the heads of the Senators and Deputies wrangling sordidly for an office

Soup and Cheese

PARIS, Wednesday (Reuter). — The new President of the French Republic, M. Rene Coty told reporters at Versailles tonight: "I hope to get home early for my soup and cheese."

This simplicity is one of the outstanding characteristics of the tall stoop-shouldered Senator whose name was mentioned as a possible candidate for the Presidency only after five inconclusive days of voting.

normally held in great honour.

The 71-year-old, tall, grey-haired lawyer, successor to Socialist Vincent Auriol as President of the French Republic for seven years, is a member of the famous Coty perfume family. But he is known to be less right-wing than others in the firm who collaborated with the Germans during the Occupation of France.

M. Coty, who, like M. Laniel, comes from Normandy, has been a member of three post-war Governments as Minister of Reconstruction and Town Planning. He is on extremely good terms with the French Catholic hierarchy and is generally well-liked by the centre and non-Communist left.

The President of the Republic and of the French Union, "umpire of the political parties," as he was described by the Constituent Assembly in 1946, presides over Cabinet meetings, the Higher Council of the Judicature and over the Constitutional Committee. He appoints the Premier, promulgates laws and is entitled to request Parliament to review its legislation. He is also nominal leader of the armed forces.

PoWs Reject Final Plea to Return Home

PANMUNJOM, Wednesday (UP). — American converts to Communism ignored their country's final plea to come home to their families today in a burst of dancing and singing of Soviet songs.

The 22 Americans, a lone Britain and 103 South Koreans repudiated their homelands even though Indian guards stood outside their compound, ready to escort them out.

Even though such high-ranking officials as U.S. Secretary of State Dulles voiced belief that some of the Americans really want to return, the prisoners' hostile last-day demonstration is certain to bring endless grief to their families.

In not-so-far-away Tokyo, Mrs. Portia Howe, of Alden, Minn., who had flown to the Far East with the hope of seeing her son, PFC Richard Tenneson, packed her bags for the sad trip home.

The Communists made a bold move today to extend the explanations by requesting "Come Home" interviews tomorrow with 250 anti-Communist Chinese prisoners.

Indian Chairman Lt. General K.S. Thimayya said that he believed the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission will reject the Communist demand and declare the 90-day period officially ended at midnight tonight.

League to Meet On Dire Talks, Rivers

Jordan Premier Fawzi Mulki and Foreign Minister H.F. Khalidi will leave Amman tomorrow morning for Beirut to attend the Arab League Political Committee emergency session in the Lebanese capital on Saturday morning, NEABS reports.

In addition to the Israel proposal for talks with Jordan, the four-day session, convened at Jordan's request, will discuss the Jordan River hydroelectric project and the overall irrigation plan of President Eisenhower's envoy to the Middle East, Mr. Eric Johnston.

It is not yet known whether the Foreign Ministers of all the Member States of the League will attend. Egypt, who previously was reported to have objected to the emergency session, has announced that her representative will be her Minister to Amman.

IL.1.800-$1 Citrus Rate is Fixed

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Levi Eshkol, yesterday approved the rate of IL.1.800 to $1 for exports.

According to the agreement reached between the Ministry of Finance and the Citrus Marketing Board, 150 pruta will be deducted from every dollar earned in favour of a Debt Fund which will be earmarked to liquidate a IL.3m. debt owed by the orange-grove owners to the Government.

BULLETIN

BERIA SHOT

MOSCOW, Wednesday (Reuter). — Lavrenti P. Beria has been executed, it was officially announced here. All six accomplices were shot with him today. All their property was ordered to be confiscated, an official announcement said tonight.

Beria, former Minister of State Security, and his accomplices were sentenced for high treason.

The Government newspaper "Izvestia" stated that the trial was held between December 18 and 23. Ivan Koniev was the prosecutor. He is Chairman of the Central Judicial Commission of the Supreme Court and a Marshal of the the Soviet Union.

Nehru Warns of US Aid to Pakistan

NEW DELHI, Wednesday (UP). — Indian Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, declared today that if Pakistan accepts American military aid, it will change the context in which India and Pakistan reached agreement last August on methods for solving their dispute over Kashmir.

The importance of such aid would not lie in its quantity but in the fact that a great world Power is sponsoring it, Nehru added. "We have had far too much of leadership in this world," he stated in opening a foreign affairs debate in the House of the people.

MR. NEHRU

The Prime Minister recalled the recent achievement of independence by Asian peoples. "Now I see some development being thought of which seems to me to reverse this process of freedom and liberation and brings to mind the period when foreign armies came to Asia," he said.

"We welcome the friendship of other countries. But we don't want any people to protect us with their armies, navies and air forces because we know by bitter experience that such protection becomes something else later."

Textile Suspect Held In Paris

PARIS, Wednesday (UP). — Police today announced the arrest of Hermann Nachman, an suspected accomplice of Isaac Rotenberg, a textile broker who left France allegedly after fraudulently obtaining some 300m. francs in textile transactions. Nachman was seized at a railway station here on his arrival from Israel, via Brussels.

He told the police that he had been sent from Israel by Rotenberg "to find out how things were going." Nachman said that Rotenberg is now in Israel, but that the authorities there had confiscated his passport, blocked his money and seized the 30m. francs worth of clothing he had managed to ship to Israel from Marseilles without paying for it.

Paper Discussed

A proposal to free locally produced paper for Hebrew books from a 5% excise tax has been discussed by a subcommittee of the Economic Ministers' Committee, it was confirmed officially in Jerusalem yesterday. It suggests that such paper should be of a special type.

The status of newsprint is not yet known.

It is understood that the suggestion follows complaints by Hebrew publishers that the tax would occasion a rise in book prices which they claim is an unfair and anti-cultural discrimination.

Postal Strike Stops French Mails

PARIS, Wednesday (Reuter). — France's partial postal strike tonight threatened to paralyse the Christmas mail. The Communist-led General Confederation of Labour and the independent unions today launched a call to all railway post office sorters and mailbag loaders to stop work at once until Friday night.

Soldiers were drafted to railway stations to sort some of the thousands of sacks of letters and parcels and to load and unload postal wagons.

Socialist-led Force Ouviere and Catholic unions, however, also have joined the strike movement. Long-distance cable workers announced that they would stop work for 24 hours. Cashiers in the money order postal service also struck, and two Parisian Post Offices were reported closed.

RUSSIAN GOLD SENT TO U. K.

LONDON, Wednesday (UP). — Hammer and sickle-stamped gold to the value of some £10m. was sent to Britain from Russia by air this week in the first sterling deal between the Central Banks of Moscow and London in 17 years, authoritative sources said today.

It was also the largest consignment of Soviet gold to reach the West for many years.

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Social & Personal

Arrivals yesterday included Mr. Barnett Janner, M.P., to attend the Zionist General Council meeting; Mr. Meyer Weisgal, of the Weizmann Institute of Science, returning from a short visit to Europe; and Prof. A. Tartakower and Mr. Y. Heftman, returning from the World Jewish Congress meeting in London, (all by B.O.A.C.); Rabbi James Heller, President of the Labour Zionist Organization of America (by El Al), and Mrs. Judith Epstein, Mrs. D. Rothbart, Mrs. R. [illegible] and Mr. B. [illegible] (all by T.W.A.), to attend the Zionist General Council session.

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The Hadassah Council in Israel honoured Mrs. R. Halprin, Mrs. E. Gottesman and Mrs R. Schoolman at a reception yesterday in the home of Mrs. Myriam Granott, attended by the Ministers of Development and of Health, the Knesset Speaker, the American Consul-General, the Netherlands Minister, Supreme Court Justices, the Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, members of the Zionist General Council, and their ladies.

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Mr. E. Gelber, of Toronto, President of the Zionist Organization of Canada and Co-Chairman of the Israel Bond Drive in that country, arrived yesterday by El Al and is staying at the King David Hotel.

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Mr. Hanan Cidor, Director of the International Institutions Division of the Foreign Ministry, returned yesterday by T.W.A. from Paris, after attending the Rome meeting of the F.A.O.

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Mr. Moshe Duchovny, a member of the editorial staff New York "Day-Journal," and Mrs. Duchovny are visiting Israel. Mr. Duchovny is preparing a series of articles on life in the country for his paper which appears in Yiddish.

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Andreja Preger, the Yugoslav pianist, arrived on the Filippo Grimani in Haifa yesterday to give a series of concerts in Israel.

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Dr. Jacob B. Shohan, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the U.S.-Israel Plastics Corporation, arrived recently from New York by TWA. Dr. Shohan is to attend the official opening on Tuesday of the Corporation's new plant in the industrial area of Holon.

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At today's luncheon meeting of the Tel Aviv-Jaffa Rotary Club at Z.O.A. House, Tel Aviv, Mr. I. Rokach will speak on "Problems of Citrus Growing in 1953."

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The Israel and British Commonwealth Association will hold a dance at the Commercial and Industrial Club premises at 17a Rehov Nachmani, Tel Aviv, on January 11, 1954, in aid of a fund for crippled children.

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The second concert (Mozart, Brahms, Prokofieff) of the Israel String Quartet will take place at the Y.M.C.A., Jerusalem, Saturday, Dec. 26, at 8.30 p.m. The hall is heated.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of Religious Committees in 300 immigrant settlements and ma'barot will open on January 4 in the Isaiah Building in Tel Aviv.

Kashrut, observance of the Shabbat, morality and religious instruction will be among the problems discussed.

ON THE AIR

JERUSALEM: 407 M.; HAIFA: 349 M.; TEL AVIV: 33.3, 48.9 & 363 M.

FIRST PROGRAMME

NEWS: Hebrew: 7 a.m.; 1.30, 8.15 and 11.00 p.m. Arabic Programme (including News): 8 a.m. 1.15 & 6.30 p.m.

6.30 a.m. Service. 6.35 Exercise. 6.45 Musical Clock (R). 7.15 Melodies (R). 8.30 Close Down.

12.00 N "Music at Noon" (R). 12.30 Housewives' Corner. 12.50 Requests (R). 1.45 Vocal Recital (R) 2.00 Close Down.

4.00 p.m. Mif'al Ha'payis Draw. 4.30 "Where to Go" (Jerusalem). 4.30 Light Music (T.A.) 5.00 Interlude (R). 5.15 Mif'al Ha'payis Draw. 5.30 Child's Corner. 5.45 Children's Hour. 7.00 Concert Hall. 8.00 Press Conference. 8.24 Bible Reading. 8.45 The Knesset & its Committees. 9.00 The Voice of the Violin (R). 9.15 Violin Recital: David Layn. 9.45 Variety. 10.15 Kol Yisrael Orchestra, Conductor: Shabtai Petrushka, Soloist: Regina Ben Amitale: Works by Tchaikowsky, Ben Lavry, Sharet & Rave. 10.45 Night Music (R). 11.05 Close Down. 12.00 Midnight. Christmas Service (relayed from Dormition Church, Jerusalem), 2.00 a.m. Close Down.

SECOND PROGRAMME

English News: 1.45 p.m.; 10.15 p.m. French: 2.00 p.m.

4.00 p.m. Opera. 5.00 Programme for Yemenites. 5.30 Mishna Lesson. 5.50 Piano Recital. 6.15 Close Down.

IMMIGRANTS' HOUR (33.3, 49.9 & 463 M.): French: 6.30 p.m. Ladino; 7.00 p.m. Yiddish: 7.30 p.m.

KOL ZION LAGOLA (33.3 M.): 11.15 News. Newsreel. 11.35 Vocal Recital: Shoshana Damari.

ARMY PROGRAMME (44.6, 216, 230 & 339 M.): 6.30 Opening. 6.35 Classical Requests. 7.30 Today's Events. 7.35 Small Events in the Big World. 8.00 Press Conference. 8.30 News. 8.45 Songs. 9.15 Dance Music. 10.00 Close Down.

B.B.C. HEBREW BROADCASTS: (16.77 & 24.93 M.): 6.30-7.30 p.m. News. News Talk. Week's Feature.

ATZMON CINEMA, Haifa

Starting Saturday, Dec. 26
Stendhal's famous novel

The Lovers of Toledo

with ALIDA VALLI
PEDRO ARMENDARIZ

Directed by the French stage manager HENRI DECOIN

Romantic, Excitement, attractive Spanish colour, wonderful acting & excellent photography.

Distribution "SUNFILM", Tel Aviv.

THE HEBREW NATIONAL
OPERA
TEL AVIV: HABIMAH
Tuesday, Dec. 29, 8.30 p.m.
Carmen
Opera in 4 acts by Bizet

TEL AVIV: HABIMAH
Tuesday, Jan. 5, 8.15 p.m.
Fledermaus
(The Bat)
Opera in 3 Acts by J. Strauss

Tickets: Rubin, 47 Allenby Rd. Tel Aviv, Tel. 5216 and at the Habimah box office.
Ramat Gan: Roberts, 60 Rehov Bialik

Imports of 'Wonder Food' Cause Glut

By SYD APPLEBAUM

The high price of local honey, complicated by an unauthorized import which equalled 10% of the local annual production, has forced apiarists to begin a strong radio and press campaign for the purchase of the nutrition-rich substance.

Heralded as "the wonder food", and "nature's most delicious food", honey has lately served both as a subject of advertisements, and of at least one 10-minute radio talk.

From the Ministry of Agriculture it is learned that the apiarists have a surplus of honey on hand and, with the support of the Ministry, are trying to push its sale. Honey, which was decontrolled exactly a year ago, costs the consumer about IL.2.500 a kilogram. Although it is acknowledged by experts to be of first-rate nutritional value, the man on the street, on the basis of a random survey, cannot afford it.

The present campaign, organised by the Apiarists' Association, probably has no connection with the recent import of honey from Argentina it was claimed. This import, however, reportedly made by an immigrant who brought the money as a form of capital transfer, was opposed by the Agriculture Ministry. The Ministry of Commerce permitted the import of 25 tons, but some 30 more were imported, according to the Ministry spokesman. At the time, the Press was told that the permitted portion of the import would be used here for some type of industrial production, while the balance might be re-exported. Local production was about 350 tons last year.

Twenty tons are being used in the production of Zoof, a soft drink, according to the Ministry. The remaining 35 tons have not been re-exported — the Investment Centre has released them to the importer — again for industrial use. But since honey is no longer under Ministry control, speculation has been rife on whether it is really only for this purpose. Conceivably, it could be resold on the local market. In addition, if it is used for cakes or other luxury purposes, it is still in competition with local produce.

Christmas Services

JERUSALEM

Church of the Dormition (Mount Zion): Tonight, 10.30 p.m. Service with Matins, followed by Midnight Mass and Lauds, which will end around 2 a.m. tomorrow; Christmas Day: Mass, 9.30 a.m.; Vespers, 5 p.m.

TEL AVIV

Anglican Church (off 19 Eilat Street): Tonight: Carol Service, 7 p.m.; Tomorrow: H.C., 7.30 a.m.; Morning Prayer & H.C., 7.30 a.m.

HAIFA

Scandinavian Seamen's Church (41 Meir St.): Tonight, 4 and 7 p.m.; Tomorrow: 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. (Rev. Per Faye Hansen, German and English).

JERUSALEM CINEMAS

At 3, 6.30 & 8.30 p.m.

ARNON: Only The Valiant.
EDEN: Jeopardy.
EDISON: La Minute De Verite.
HAZAMIR: Fire Dance (Arabic).
ORGIL: Temptation Harbour.
ORION: Limelight (3rd Week).
ORNA: Monkey Business.
STUDIO: La Ronde.
TEL-OR: Cave Of Outlaws.
ZION: The Greatest Show on Earth. (3, 6 & 9 p.m.)

Z·O·A HOUSE

SATURDAY, Dec. 26, 8.30
The famous Belgrade Pianist
ANDREJA PREGER
Tickets: Z.O.A. House, Radio-Union, Schlesinger.

Tonight, "Tel-Or", Jerusalem

DIE BRÜCKE הגשר

Artists' Collective

Sunday, Dec. 27, 8.30 p.m.
DRAMA READING OF
ARTHUR SCHNITZLER'S
"REIGEN"
(La Ronde)
Bet Hahalutzot,
52A King George St.,
Tel Aviv.

Tickets: Schlesinger & Springer, 3 Rehov Nahlat Benyamin; Nussenbaum, Tobacconist, 42 Reh. Ben Yehuda; Radio Union, 116 Rehov Dizengoff; and at the Box Office.

Doesn't Mind 'Ike'

WASHINGTON, Wednesday. (UP) — President Eisenhower doesn't mind if they refer to him as "Ike."

He smiled broadly when a reporter raised the question today at his weekly news conference. The reporter observed that "Ike" is much easier to fit into headlines than Eisenhower.

The President said that of course he doesn't mind, that he has answered to the nickname all his life, and his personal opinion is that it does not take from the dignity of his high office.

Gan Shmuel Wins Tractor In Grain-Growing Contest

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA, Wednesday.—A Ferguson tractor, the first prize for growing the best grain in the country in the past season, was awarded to Kibbutz Gan Shmuel, near Hadera, by the Agriculture Ministry's Director-General, Mr. H. Gvati, here today.

The second prize in the country-wide competition, a loan to purchase one kilometre of light irrigation pipe was awarded to Kibbutz Ein Shemer, in the Sharon and the third, a free flight to Eilat, to Ginegar, in the Jezreel Valley.

Farming methods, the density per dunam and conditions of soil were taken into consideration rather than the total amount of grain harvested. Representatives of grain-growing settlements from all over the country gathered at Betenu for the ceremony this morning.

Mr. Gvati told them that he hoped grain production for bread and fodder would reach 200,000 tons this year, half the country's needs. In the past year, production reached 130,000 tons, despite difficult weather conditions.

Mr. A. Kam, Director of the Ministry's Grain and Fodder Division, announced that the competition would be repeated this season. A secretary of the Grain Growers' Association, Mr. M. Nave, said that 44% of the total grain-growers area would be used for raising summer crops this year.

Scrip Shops May be Allowed To Buy More Abroad

Scrip companies may be allowed to use 75% of their turnover for purchasing goods abroad or in Israel, in place of the 49% which they were bound to spend in Israel, according to a proposal made to the companies by the Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Z. Susayeff. The Ministry spokesman explained yesterday that the proposed purchases abroad would be only from countries with which Israel has trade agreements.

Observers point out that the companies are more interested in meat and similar items from abroad, while in the past a great deal of their local spending had been for sweets, which then were rationed.

U.S. Firm Pays Workers $5.1m. in Bonuses

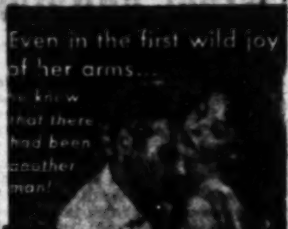
CLEVELAND, Wednesday (UP). — The Lincoln Electric Co. is sharing a $104,000 Christmas bonus with its 1,228 employees, averaging $ 3,342.02 per worker.

The incentive plan was started 20 years ago by the firm's President, Mr. James F. Lincoln. Since that time employees have received an average total of $45,573 in pay over and above regular earnings.

"Each worker must be recognised and rewarded honestly according to what he has contributed during the year," Mr. Lincoln said. "We believe that people can, and will, do a better job when given the incentive to do so."

The firm also distributed $550,000 for annuities.

Starting Sat. night, Dec. 26
AT MOGRABI CINEMA
—Tel Aviv


Even in the first wild joy of her arms...
she knew that there had been another man!

LORETTA YOUNG
JEFF CHANDLER
"*Because of You*"
ALEX NICOL · FRANCES DEE
with ALEXANDER SCOURBY

Ball at the Sharon

Come to Celebrate On Thursday,

Our 5th Anniversary December 31, 1953.

Music and Dancing everywhere
2 Bands, Turkey Dinner.
Delicious Sharon Patisserie
Hot Dogs, Doughnuts, Fortune-teller
Champagne.
AND ALL THIS COMES TO IL.13.750
(taxes and service included)

Book at your earliest convenience — Sharon [illegible] aller-retour IL.0.950

Press Review:

Russian Stand Rouses Editorials To Speculate on Its Motives

Commenting on the [illegible] in the Security Council "Ha'aretz" (Independent) thinks it would be instructive to know what has caused Russia to become an Arab supporter. The fact that Mr. Vyshinsky intervened on instructions from Moscow suggests that this is the result of planned policy. Russia has of late been appearing as a staunch champion of national causes, and it is difficult to see how this tallies with the Arab demand to infringe on Israel sovereignty. The paper asks whether this was simply a demonstration of Russia's sympathy for the Arabs, or the reward for the Arab's stand on recent American proposals (Korea, acts of atrocity etc.)

Similar questions are asked by the rest of the Press except "Kol Ha'am" (Communist) which welcomes Mr. Vyshinsky's support of Syria, maintaining that "the friends of peace and independence welcome Mr. Vyshinsky's important contribution to the struggle of the peoples of Israel and the Arab countries for peace and independence."

"Al Hamishmar" (Mapam) breaks its silence by editorially announcing that Israel must be given a free hand to continue its development schemes. Mr. Vyshinsky's declaration that the two sides should start direct negotiations unfortunately contains "one-sided truth" since only one side, e.g. the State of Israel, is ready to negotiate. The paper says that the proposal should be interpreted to mean that Israel will be free to continue its work if the Arabs refuse to take part in direct talks, and as well as in the eventuality that no decision at all is adopted by the Security Council.

"Haboker" (General Zionist) says that the Russian attitude should not surprise us. Criticising the ostrich policy of 'Al Hamishmar' the paper asserts that there is no reason at all to assume that Russia would be willing to help us and that our policies should therefore be directed towards our friends, rather than towards "neo-identification."

Other topics dealt with in the editorial columns include the coalition talks. "Hamodia" (Agudat Yisrael) claims that the main note of discord between Mapai and the General Zionists is the "ten (or five) per cent clause." The General Zionists are afraid that they would be the main losers in elections if this principle, cutting out the competition of the small parties, is not introduced.

Commenting on the appointment of Supreme Court Justices, "Hatzofe" (World Mizrahi Union) recalls that the void created by the death of Prof. Assaf has not yet been filled, and hopes that the same considerations which led to the appointment of Prof. Assaf as a Supreme Judge should now bring about the appointment of somebody equally well-versed in orthodox law.

"Omer" (Histadrut) comments on the open letter by a Bundist (non-Zionist) public figure in the U.S. to the editor of a local Yiddish language paper, upbraiding him for cheap sensationalism and the distorted impression he gives of life in Israel.

"Zmanim" (Progressive) expresses surprise that the Minister of Health did not ask for expert advice before announcing that state employees will be covered by a Government health insurance scheme to be established in the near future. This project was published in so precipitate a manner that there are serious doubts about the authors' intentions. Since no figures have been given, it is difficult to judge the scheme's merits.

"Herut" (Herut) criticises the Knesset debate on infiltration, and considers it a "fatal mistake" to make infiltration a criminal act, at a time when it should be regarded a political and military problem which can only be solved by the unification of every part of the homeland.

High Court Permits Arab Family to Stay

The High Court made final on Tuesday an injunction preventing the banishment of five members of an Arab family in Majdal Krum. The decision was based on the family's statement that they were in the country when the first registration of inhabitants was made.

The father claimed that the entire family had been born in the village and had resided there until January, 1951, when they were expelled by the Army. They had registered in the village for the first census but were no longer there when the registration slips were distributed. They returned and were expelled as they had no registration slips. They continued to return to the village, and when they were arrested in September, they appealed to the Court which issued the injunction.

Government authorities assert that they had registered when the census was made, but that there was a possibility that they had not been in the village when it was occupied. The Court accepted and believed the father's deposition and thus granted their claim to citizenship. *(Itim)*

NOTICE

We hereby give notice that we have applied to the Jerusalem Municipality for the renewal of a Retailer's "ON" licence for 1954 for the sale of intoxicating liquors at our premises, Talbieh, Jerusalem.

(Sgd.) D. PIPER,
Secretary
Israel Touring Club,
Jerusalem.

FOR SALE

PEUGEOT Passenger Car
4 seater Model 1947

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Where to go

JERUSALEM

★ **Libraries:** — American Library and Reading Room, U.S. Consulate, Mamilla Rd. Entrance free, 9-5.

★ **Museums:** — Permanent exhibition incl. maps & finds of the late Col. P.L.O. Guy excavations, Dept. of Antiquities, 25 Rehov Shlomo Hamelech, Daily 9-1, 4-6.

★ **Exhibitions:** — From own collections: "Painting and Sculpture in Israel," "Old Masters," "Dancer," bronze by Edgar Degas, "Modern French Graphics," Bezalel National Museum, 9-1, 4-6. Paintings by Ruth Schloss and Naftali Bezem, Artists' House, 10-1, 4-6 p.m.

★ **Tour:** — Hebrew University conducted tour, new administration building, King George Ave. opposite Terra Sancta, 10 a.m.

★ **Film Show:** — Keren Hayesod, 11.30-12.30.

TEL AVIV

★ **Exhibition:** — "Leonardo the Artist and Man of Science," photographs and reproductions. "Illustrated Manuscripts." Sketches by Leopold Krakauer. Municipal Museum. 10-1, 4-7 p.m.

★ **Theatre:** — "My Sister Eileen," Chamber Theatre, Mograbi, 8 p.m.

★ **Entertainment:** — Concert Noga Cafe, 8 to 12 p.m. Dance and dine at the Cocktail Bar.

HAIFA

★ **Exhibitions:** — "Fifty Years of French Painting" — Municipal Museum of Modern Art — Town Hall. 9-1, 4-6 p.m. Oil paintings by Litwinowsky and ceramics by the painter Cahana — The "[illegible]" Art Gallery — 4 Reh. Beerwald opp. Zion Hotel, 10-1, 4-7.

★ **Theatre:** — Do-Re-Mi, "Countess Maritza," Operetta, Orah cinema. 6.15 & 9.30 p.m. "Nasr-A-Din," Chamber Theatre, Armon Cinema, 9 p.m.

HERZLIA ON SEA

★ **Entertainment:** — Dine and Dance at the Sharon Hotel.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

JERUSALEM: Rehavia, 23 Ussishkin 4702. Rehovot, Bokharan Qr., 4738. **TEL AVIV**, Abramski, 42 Allenby, 3536. Yehuda Halevi, 91 Yehuda Halevi, 5153. Frankel, 28 King George, 3721. Yaffe, 173 Ben Yehuda, 34543. Hatikva, Hatikva Qr., 67404. **JAFFA:** Noga, 3 Rehov 266, 82896. **RAMAT GAN:** Amit, 130 Hamodiin, **GIVATAYIM:** Noga, opp. Fire Brigade. **HAIFA:** Herzlia, 3 Herzlia, 4014. Weisel Lebanoni, 21 Atzmaut, 2886. **KIRYAT BIALIK:** Bialik, 7230.

EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

TEL AVIV: Dr. M. Shaham, 1 Syrkin, 25943. Dr. N.L. Sacher, 168 Dizengoff, 26232. Dr. A. Romano, 21 Herzl, 66237. Dr. Levithal, 3 Mapu 24822.

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Cook-Housekeeper
Sleep-in.
Apply: Moshewitz,
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Tel. 26466 (until 9 a.m. or between 1-3 p.m.)

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

DEC. 23.		Rise or Fall
Govt. Loans		
6% 1959 (reg.)	96½	—a)
6% 1953 (reg.)	103	—
6% 1956 (reg.)	100	—
Pal. Loans		
1948-68 (IL 10)	97	—
1950/75 (IL 10)	97	—
5½% Travel Dollar	1900	—27a)
3½% War Loan 54/59	97	—
3½% Govt. Bonds large	90	—
Pal. [illegible] Bd.		
Ser. 1	70	—
Ser. 2	71	+1
Ser. 3	71	—
B. Leumi Ord sh.	278	—
A.P.B. Israel		
6% Debs. 60/70	[illegible]	—
6½% Pref. sh.	100	—ac)
Ord sh. "B"	117½	—½
[illegible]		
6% Debs. 48/63	77	—
6% Pref. sh.	76	—
[illegible]		
6% Debs. 46/55	97	—
4½% Debs. 52/66 reg.	73	—c)
Nir Ltd.		
6% Debs. 39/59	99	—c)
6% Pref. sh.	71	—
[illegible] 6% 61/63	72	—c)
P.L.D.C. Ord. sh.	161½	+1½
5% Debs.	100	+1
Afr Pal. Inv. Ord. sh.	130	+4
Rassco		
6% Debs 58/69	70	—
6% Pref. Ord. sh.	82	—
Pal. Potash 6% Pref. sh.	228	+1
"A" ord sh.	173½	—1½
Pal. Elec. Ord. sh. (ser.)	347	—
Mekoroth Pref. sh.	74	—
Ata 6% "C" Pref. sh.	130	—
Ord. "B" sh.	149	—1½
6-8% Con. Debs.	100	—
"Kurdaneh" Ord "B" sh	155½	—
[illegible] "B" sh	146½	—
"Tova" Ord. sh.	101	—
[illegible] 6% Debs. Ser. 5	105	—
Pal. Cold St. 7% Debs.	132½	—
Lodzia 6½% Pref. sh.	73	—
S.A. [illegible] Ord. sh	83	—b)
Pal. Conts. Tr. pref. sh	84	—

Notes: a) purchasing price; b) selling price; c) ex-coupons; d) ex right; x) prutot per one Dollar

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HOUSING AND MORTGAGE CORPORATION LTD.
INTERIM DIVIDEND ON PREFERENCE SHARES

The Board, in its Meeting held on December 2, 1953, resolved that an Interim Dividend be paid to Shareholders of the "A" Cumulative Preference Shares and the "B" Cumulative Redeemable Preference Shares in the Company.

The Dividend will be paid at the rate of 4% per annum (pro rata temporis) for the period April 1, 1953-Sept. 30, 1953 to Shareholders who were registered as such on September 30, 1953.

By Order of the Board.
C. BAR KOCHBA,
Secretary.

מס הכנסה

ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCE IN INCOME TAX PAYABLE ON COST OF LIVING

Starting with October 1953 salaries, an additional sum of IL.5 out of the c.o.l. allowance will be exempt from Income Tax.

Thus the total amount free from Income Tax now stands at IL.21.640 (viz.: IL.5 plus IL.16.640 previously freed.)

Young Man,
formerly Egypt, long experience accounting, auditing, English, French, Hebrew, discharged from Army, LOOKING FOR FULL TIME JOB. Write: V.S., P.O.B. [illegible], HAIFA.

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for large Department Store,
Department Managers,
with experience and initiative for the following branches:

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- Musical Instruments, Records, Radios
- Sports Goods

Applicants must be specialists in their respective line, as they will have to handle buying as well. Write: No.443, P.O.B. [illegible], Tel Aviv.

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HAIFA BAY — ACRE WAY
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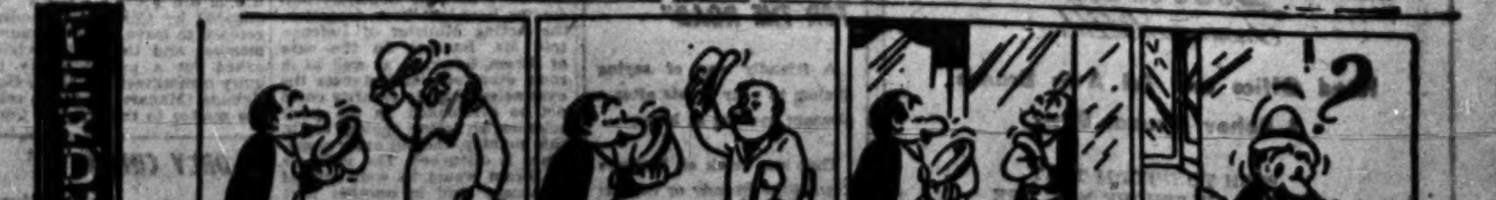


Today's Post Bag

THE WEATHER

	A	B	C	D
Mt. Canaan	[illegible]	1	6	8
Tiberias	[illegible]	10	15	14
Haifa Port	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nahariya	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tel Aviv Port	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lydda Airport	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jerusalem	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beersheba	[illegible]	[illegible]	12	[illegible]
Eilat	[illegible]	10	18	17

FORECAST: Cloudy and rain.

*A) Humidity at 2 p.m. B) Min. temp. [illegible]. C) Maxim. yesterday. D) Maximum temp. expected today.

• • •

CURRENCY in circulation rose last week by IL.446,000 to IL.128,512,000, following an increase of IL.476,000 in foreign currency holdings (to IL.4,288,000) and a decrease of IL.30,000 in Treasury bills (to IL.57,980,000). Land bonds remained steady at IL.77,375,000.

• • •

TODAY is the 20th Anniversary of Ramot Hashavim, known for its excellent poultry and eggs and founded in the Sharon Plain by professional men from Central Europe.

• • •

THE ASSOCIATION OF Sephardi rabbis yesterday elected a committee headed by the Minister of Police, Mr. Bechor Shitreet, to choose a candidate for the post of Chief Rabbi.

• • •

THE s.s. NEGBAH has been delayed by high seas and will arrive in Haifa either tonight or tomorrow morning, the Shoham Company announces.

• • •

THE COUNCIL of the Union of Local Government Authorities decided in Tel Aviv yesterday to demand from the Government that a higher percentage of locally paid taxes should be allocated to Local Councils.

• • •

THE NATANYA ORT school has been provided with three buildings on a site of 2,130 square metres to expand the school. The premises have been converted into workshops, laboratories and classrooms.

Gomma Globulin Produced by MDA

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — Laboratory tests of the first gamma globulin and albumin produced by the Magen David Adom's temporary fractionation plant prove that the product contains 95 to 97% pure gamma globulin and is perfectly suited for preventive medicine in cases of polio and certain other diseases, Magen David Adom announced today. The tests were carried out by the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovot.

The temporary plant is installed at M.D.A. headquarters here and the machinery functions at 25 degrees Centigrade below freezing. The machinery was sent here by the American Friends of Magen David Adom.

The M.D.A. will shortly begin constructing the Colonel David Marcus Fractionation Plant, which will be built on a plot of land donated by the Government. The Plant will be maintained and operated by the Magen David Adom with the cooperation of the Preventive Medicine Department of the Israel Defence Forces Medical Corps, the Weizmann Institute, the Hebrew University and the Ministry of Health.

DRY DANUBE

VIENNA, Wednesday (Reuter). — The Danube here fell yesterday to the lowest level ever known after seven months of almost unbroken drought, officials reported today.

RATION NEWS

JERUSALEM — Imported Butter: 200 gr., Gimel 17: Temp. 1, 9, 10. Fresh Fish: 200 gr., Dalet 2: Temp. 22; Fillet: 150 gr., Dalet 17: Temp. 28.

TEL AVIV — Fillet: 150 gr., Dalet 17; Temp. 28. Local Carp: 200 gr., Dalet 3; Temp. 42. Frozen Meat for Invalids: 500 gr., Het-Gimel 24. Het Bet 12. Sausage for labourers: 21, 22. Diabetics Chocolate: 1 package, [illegible] Gimel 1.

Yule Pilgrimage Begins Today

Jerusalem Post Staff

The Christmas pilgrimage to Bethlehem begins at seven this morning when the nuns of St. Vincent de Paul, of Jerusalem, are to bring a large group of their blind and disabled charges to Mandelbaum Gate.

They have been given priority to pass through Mandelbaum Gate which today is reserved for the passage of tourists, consular and foreign service personnel. All other Christians of Israel nationality will go via the old Mixed Armistice Commission building in St. Paul's way.

The U.S. Consulate-General in Jerusalem reports that "the biggest batch ever" of American residents has applied to cross the lines today. The list includes Mr. Bruce McDaniel, Technical Cooperation Administrator, Dr. A. C. Black, Food and Agricultural Organization chief in Israel, T.C.A. experts and employees of Construction Aggregates and other foreign firms. The Quaker group in Acre is crossing en masse.

Fifty-nine Christmas pilgrims from France arrived in the s.s. Filippo Grimani in Haifa yesterday.

Admiral in Old City

Admiral Francis Hughes, head of the U.S. Naval Mission in Turkey, and six senior staff officers, arrived in the Old City from Ankara on Tuesday, and were welcomed by the District Commissioner at a reception attended by American consular personnel and U.N. officials. According to "A-Diffa," the Admiral will visit Nazareth.

Chartered buses and cars packed with Christian Arabs from Galilee and Nazareth have streamed into Jerusalem since early yesterday. Venerable Catholic priests queued with elders of the parishes at the District Representative's Office to receive their transit permits.

Pilgrims from Haifa and Nazareth lined up in one room; from Jaffa, Ramle and Lydda in a second office; and from Jerusalem in a third, to expedite the work of distributing permits.

The 500 pilgrims who arrived early will cross the frontier this morning, while other permits are being issued.

Families from Nazareth and Acre, dressed in their holiday suits and red tarbushes, paid visits to the YMCA, climbed the Tower and walked up to Mt. Zion to see the Dormition.

Pilgrims Go Strolling

Others strolled along St. Paul's Way inspecting preparations for the transit of 1,600 pilgrims.

Soldiers have fenced off with barbed wire the roadway in front of the M.A.C. building, and have set up desks for Customs, Health, Immigration and Police officials.

Kol Yisrael is broadcasting the entire Midnight Mass from Dormition Church on Mt. Zion from midnight to 12.30 a.m. Friday, Christmas Day.

Programmes of carols and recorded excerpts from services in Nazareth and Jerusalem are to be broadcast on Christmas Day, including carols in Arabic.

In Nazareth, about 40 of the 735 residents who had received passes to the Old City for Christmas, were suddenly informed yesterday that the Jordan Government had objected to their entry into its territory. They were notified by phone and by special messenger from the Military Governor's Office.

ELIEZER KAPLAN WOOD

The first saplings in the Eliezer Kaplan Wood, between Ein Kerem and Beit Mazmil, will be planted on January 1.

'Poverty Must Not Be Photographed'

"To the Jordanians you have come from enemy territory and you are therefore somewhat suspect," the American Consulate-General in Jerusalem yesterday told American citizens in Israel intending to cross the lines for Christmas.

The Consulate asked that the sensibilities of the Arabs in this regard be respected and that no photographs be taken of "military installations and scenes of poverty."

Jerusalem Municipal Workers Strike Today

Jerusalem Municipal employees will strike at 10 this morning except for those in essential public services, the Workers Committee announced yesterday.

They would not cancel the oft-postponed walk-out, although Mayor Kariv has promised full payment of November salaries by tomorrow. Several departments have already received their wages.

Confiscation of goods from householders in arrears in paying their rates will be resumed next week, the Municipal spokesman reported. About 40% of the rate-payers still have not paid for the last quarter.

IL.79,000 in Credits For J'lem Industry

Jerusalem manufacturers, who claim that they need credits amounting to IL.2m. in order to maintain their present operations, have been allotted IL.79,000, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry spokesman stated in the capital last night.

The spokesman gave no figures on the total number of requests for credits, but stated that the IL.79,000 had been issued to 14 manufacturers. Further requests in the amount of IL.111,500 are in various stages of being processed, while known requests to be handed in soon total IL.50,000.

Available from Government budgets for such purposes are IL.500,000, divided among the Ministries of Commerce, Labour and various banks.

SDE BOKER TO MINE GYPSUM

BEERSHEBA, Wednesday. — Gypsum shortly will be mined in Wadi Raman by members of Sde Boker. Part of the machinery and equipment is already at the site of the proposed mine and the rest will be delivered shortly.

Most of the gypsum will be sent to the Shimshon cement factory near Hartuv. Sde Boker is also planning on cutting gypsum blocks and turning them into slabs of "artificial marble."

Sabra 'Ambassador', 17 Flies Today to U.S.

HAIFA, Wednesday. — Israel's youngest ambassador, 17-year-old Nurit Auerbach, is flying to the U.S. tomorrow to represent the country's high school pupils at the "New York Herald Tribune" Forum in March.

Miss Auerbach, a seventh grade pupil at the Leo Baeck Secondary School here, was chosen from candidates representing all the country's secondary schools by the Ministry of Education and Culture and the U.S. Embassy.

Until the Forum is held, she will live with different families in various cities for two-week periods and will attend school with their daughters. She will tell the pupils about Israel, its schools and youth. She will also appear on radio and television programmes.

Dr. M. Elk, headmaster of the school at which Nurit began her education, believes that she was chosen for her personality, since she is a "natural unpretentious, modest Sabra." She heads her Girl Guide group, plays the flute and is an expert in folk dancing.

Last year, she represented Israel in France and the U.K. for the World Union for Progressive Judaism.

Nurit herself told *The Jerusalem Post* this morning that she had "never dreamed of being chosen." She said that she would miss her three months of schooling, but would make up for it before her matriculation next year. On the other hand, she expects to become the best pupil in English.

She is allowed to take 20 kilograms of luggage on her free plane trip, donated by TWA; this will "certainly be enough" as she thinks that she will not need many dresses.

Nurit had been told to include nylon stockings, but hopes that she will not have to wear them. The news, that the first family with whom she is to stay in the U.S. "live modestly" had not worried her, and she is confident that she will be able to "explain" Israel in English.

After finishing school next year, she intends to join Nahal, and later to become a teacher in a village or settlement.

Serlin Defends Health Plan

Mr. Y. Serlin, the Minister of Health, has replied in strong terms to the Histadrut condemnation of his Civil Service Health Insurance plan, which was stigmatised by Mr. M. Namir, the Histadrut Secretary-General, as an isolationist project damaging both the Histadrut and Kupat Holim.

Mr. Serlin wrote to Mr. Namir: "Why look for hidden motives in an experiment designed to improve the social conditions of civil servants who are certainly not pampered? How can a purely administrative scheme be construed as a frontal attack on the Histadrut?"

Public servants have the right to choose their own Sick Fund, the Health Minister declared, adding that in many progressive western countries dozens of health insurance schemes operate side by side.

Mr. Serlin said he was quite certain that the proposed scheme would not harm existing medical organisations.

50 Students Admitted To Medical School

Fifty new students were admitted this year to first-year courses at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School.

They were selected from 180 candidates on the basis of entrance examinations in the natural sciences and following personal interviews with the Admissions Committee.

The new School of Pharmacy was opened with ten students selected from 60 candidates and the new School of Dentistry with 15 students from 45 candidates.

Both Schools are integrated into the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School.

Haifa's Zion Hotel Opens New Wing

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA, Wednesday.— The Zion Hotel will open the doors of a newly-completed wing tomorrow. At a cost of IL.1,000,000 and $200,000 partly invested by foreign capitalists, and after two-and-a-half years of construction, the hotel has been enlarged from 50 to 110 rooms, given an imposing new front and increased to eight stories.

The new rooms are light and comfortable, and have telephones, attached bathrooms, central heating, air conditioning on the lower floors, strong distinctive colouring and modern simplicity bordering on luxury. Some of the rooms can be turned into suites. A large reception hall has been built and a tropical garden is being planted on the roof.

The hotel now combines a new and old section. Prices will vary from IL.11.500 to IL.15 daily ($6.40 to $8.60). This is cheaper than in comparable hotels here or in most foreign countries, the management stated. Almost half of the building time was taken up in digging the foundations into the Haifa rock.

All available space was exploited by the construction of semi-underground floors. The hotel is now fitted with three elevators, and most of the building materials and furniture are Israeli-made, including plastic wall padding.

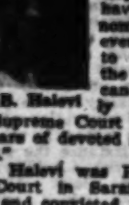
SOLDIER KILLED IN CRASH

HAIFA, Wednesday. — A soldier, Amram Gurfinkel, was killed instantly, and two others were injured slightly when a lorry ran into them in Kiryat Motzkin last night.

Several other soldiers who were walking with them were unhurt. The lorry driver was charged and released on bail.

Judge to Leave Over New Appointments

Dr. Benjamin Halevi, President of the Jerusalem District Court, is to submit his resignation to the Minister of Justice on Friday, he told *The Jerusalem Post* in reply to questions last night. The resignation is to take effect on April 1.



Dr. B. Halevi

The letter of resignation, which has been signed by Dr. Halevi, explains that he has taken the step because "I have not been nominated or even proposed to fill one of the four vacancies recently created in the Supreme Court despite my 15 years of devoted service as a judge."

Dr. Halevi was President of the Court in Sarafand which tried and convicted 13 terrorists in August 1952. He settled in this country in 1933.

Dr. Halevi denied to *The Jerusalem Post* a report published in an afternoon paper in which allegedly he had said that the failure to nominate him was due to the fact that he had not used influence.

Charged with Raping, Slaying Infant

TEL AVIV, Wednesday (ITIM). — Victor Mizan, 22, was charged in the Magistrate's Court here today with the premeditated murder and rape of five-year-old Rachel Levin near the intersection of the Petah Tikva — Lydda road, in the Hiriya area, on February 14, 1953.

Mr. Eliezer Bar-Lev, of Tel Aviv, a layman, is to defend Mizan. The prosecuting attorney, Mr. Eliezer Leibson, objected to Mr. Bar-Lev's appearance as defence attorney, charging that this would create a precedent whereby a layman could defend criminal offenders in Court.

Magistrate Y. Harel, however, after explaining the matter to Mizan in French and getting the answer "I want Mr. Bar-Lev," ruled that Mr. Bar-Lev could act as defence attorney. According to law, a layman can appear as a defendant only in a civil case, the Magistrate said, but in this case the defendant's will is paramount. The decision is not binding upon the District Court.

Mr. Avraham Levin, the girl's father, police officers, and two other persons testified on the girl's disappearance and the finding of the body, before the Court adjourned until December 27.

Australian Envoy Ends Mission

LYDDA AIRPORT, Wednesday (ITIM). — The Australian Minister to Israel, Mr. O. C. W. Fuhrman, accompanied by his wife, left by B.O.A.C. today on their way to London upon completion of his tour of duty here. He had served as Minister to Israel for the past four years, his term being exceeded here only by the Argentine Minister.

Mr. and Mrs. Fuhrman were seen off by Mr. Walter Eytan, Director-General of the Foreign Ministry; Mr. Anthony Moore, Charge d'Affaires at the British Embassy and members of the Embassy staff.

The Kabaka and the Empire

The banished Kabaka of Buganda, Mutesa II, shakes hands with Oliver Lyttleton, Britain's Colonial Secretary, after an interview at the Colonial Office. Express Photo.

LONDON, Wednesday (UP). — Britain's decision to ban permanently the Kabaka of Buganda from his East African kingdom roused protests in the British Press today and brought warnings from East Africans that the action would echo in other African areas where nationalists are turning to Egypt as their spiritual ally.

An editorial in "The Times" led in protesting that the British Government's action "would be received with distress in England and Uganda." "The wound" will not be confined to Uganda, it warned.

One of the Kabaka's supporters who pleaded his cause at the Colonial Office, said that the British action was that of a foreign power taking away the king of Buganda. "There is going to be bloodshed," he predicted.

The Kabaka, 29-year-old Cambridge-educated Mutesa II, was removed from his throne by Colonial Secretary Oliver Lyttelton for not cooperating with the Colonial Office and the rest of Uganda and apparently trying to set up his own kingdom as an independent nation.

Russian Legation Staff Moves Into Hotel

RAMAT GAN, Wednesday. — The first members of the Soviet Legation staff moved to Hotel Hashoshanim here today. Most of the hotel's 50 rooms already have been put at the disposal of the Legation, and finishing touches are being added to the restaurant, bar, underground shelter and other hotel facilities.

The Soviet Minister, Mr. A.N. Abramov, and Mr. J. P. Myedyanik, first Secretary of the Soviet Legation, today inspected the building, and Mr. Abramov expressed his satisfaction with its site.

The hotel has been leased for three years. According to the lease, the Soviet Legation will receive a year's rent if it should leave the hotel within a year, and six-months' rent if it moves out within two years.

Forty-five staff members are to move into the hotel.

EXPLOSION. — The freighter, s.s. Francesca, foundered in a Yugoslav port on Tuesday, five minutes after a flask of compressed air in the motor had exploded, killing three of the crew, the Yugoslav News Agency "Tanjug" said on Tuesday night.

War Invalids, Police Fight at Draw

HAIFA, Wednesday.—A free-for-all between disabled veterans of the War of Independence and police broke out here this evening during the drawing of flats for the Tel Amal Popular Housing Scheme.

About 100 future tenants, including some 30 veterans, assembled for the draw in the Hapoel hut. The disabled claimed that four of their members without sufficient money to pay for their flats should be included in the draw, since the Defence Ministry had guaranteed payment to the Ministry of Labour.

This was refused.

The veterans then interrupted the proceedings and were warned by the police to stop, but to no avail. A reinforcement of 30 constables then arrived and endeavoured to remove them by force.

The men reportedly resisted and it was found necessary to drag them out bodily. After all the invalids were removed, the draw proceeded.

'White Paper' On Rumanian Gov't

A White Paper on the relations between the World Jewish Congress and the Rumanian Government will be published within the next few weeks, Prof. Arieh Tartakower, Israel chairman of the World Jewish Congress, told an *Itim* reporter in Jerusalem yesterday.

It will deal at length with the trials in Rumania against Zionist and Congress leaders now taking place, and will stress the fact that Rumanian Jewry had been affiliated to the World Jewish Congress with the express knowledge of the Rumanian Government, Prof. Tartakower stated.

He pointed out that the Democratic Jewish Committee in Rumania, which represents the majority of Rumanian Jews, had participated at the World Jewish Conference in 1948. In the light of these facts, the Paper will show that the charges of the Rumanian Government against the Zionist leaders are devoid of any factual and moral basis.

Cables in Brief

BURGESS. — A letter posted in a southeast London district from Guy Burgess, who disappeared from his job in the British Foreign Office with his diplomat colleague Donald MacLean two-and-a-half years ago, has been received at his mother's address in London, it was learned yesterday. The two men were believed to have gone behind the Iron Curtain.

FASCISTS. — One of Italian dictator Benito Mussolini's first hired assassins, Amerigo Dumini, is on his way home, as a result of a Government amnesty. Dumini, and a group of other hired murderers, on Mussolini's orders, killed one of Italy's leading Socialists, Giacomo Matteotti, in the early years of the Fascist era.

OVERTIME.—The Executive of the three-million strong Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions in Britain yesterday decided on a nation-wide ban on overtime from January 11. This would cut output by one-third in vital export industries and cost employers £5m. in lost production.

LUXEMBOURG. — Pierre Dupong, Prime Minister of Luxembourg for the past 16 years, died suddenly yesterday, three days after breaking a leg. He was 68.

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Personal Notices

We mourn the death of our beloved

HENRY KAUFMAN

who passed away on Wednesday, December 23, 1953.

The funeral will leave today for the Giv'at Shaul Cemetery, from 18 Rehov Arlosoroff, Jerusalem, at 1 p.m.

In the name of the family
EMMY KAUFMAN-SPEER

Deeply mourning, we announce that my beloved husband, our father, father-in-law, grandfather, brother-in-law and uncle

VICTOR LOEWY Engineer

passed away at the age of 75, after a short illness yesterday.

The funeral will leave from the Elisha Hospital, Mt. Carmel, at 10 a.m. today.

THE BEREAVED FAMILY

Kindly refrain from condolence visits

We extend our deepest sympathies to the Families [illegible], Littmann and Steinweg on the death of

MAX TREU

The Israel Phoenix Assurance Co. Ltd.

I hereby wish to extend my sincerest thanks to all my friends and acquaintances for their sympathy shown to me in my sad bereavement.

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Thursday, December 24, 1953
Tevet 18, 5714, Rabi-al-Thani 17, 1373

FUEL POLICY

MUCH attention has been paid recently to the prospects of getting crude or heavy oil from Russia, and speculation has been rife about the possible impact of such developments upon the local oil market. One should not lose sight of the fact, however, that our oil position is rapidly changing in other respects as well. First of all, there has been a marked shift in the composition of our consumption of oil products. Though no exact figures are available, it is known that the proportion of heavy and medium products has continued to increase, mainly on account of the persistent growth of sales of electric current, but also because of the expansion of industrial and transport consumption. This shift to the cheaper products is favourable of course from the standpoint of foreign currency, but technically it has somewhat complicated the position, forcing us once more to turn to imports of refined products. For the processing of one million tons of crude oil at the Haifa refinery cannot yield more than about 430,000 tons of heavy fuel oil while our current consumption is already in excess of 500,000 tons a year. In this respect, the Russian offer is of particular interest.

The main point of issue seems to be that imported fuel oil apparently can be obtained much more cheaply than that produced locally. While the price demanded by the Russians has not been revealed, it is known that Greek electric plants recently have been supplied by the Shell company at a price of $12.08 the ton c.i.f., whereas we are paying $19.25 per ton for Haifa fuel oil. As a matter of fact, fuel oil at present is being offered in abundance on the world market and at prices lower than the crude oil from which it is refined, the reason being that it has become mainly a residual product of higher grade distillates. We could easily avail ourselves of this opportunity, were we not interested in the production of the Haifa Refinery, which is hinged on local marketing of its fuel oil output.

Yet even so, a price difference of about 50 per cent between the imported and the local fuel oil appears exorbitant. And it is not made more palatable by the fact that the Shell Company has been charging occasional fuel oil imports at the same high price as that asked for the local product. The veil of secrecy that is spread over all oil transactions and prices does not allow us to carry the comparison further, but it does not seem presumptuous to infer that there is also ample scope for price reductions in other oil products.

Another change, too, has occurred in our financial position vis-à-vis the oil companies. Two years ago, the country faced disaster as a result of a crisis in our payments for oil imports. Time and again the contractual releases of foreign currency were made with considerable time lags and under pressure. But the situation has improved since sterling payments can be transferred to the German Reparations account, and during recent months dollar obligations too have been settled more or less regularly. The foreign oil companies are now taking a very active interest in maintaining their share in the Israel market, and it may be assumed that they will now be prepared to accept a more conservative calculation of their costs and prices.

To this end, however, the initiative must come from the Fuel Controller and the Treasury. Until now, they were often forced to turn a blind eye to many more or less dubious price elements, such as the overheads of the main offices abroad. But the Russian offer has revealed that even the Gulf price basis is sacrosanct only as long as we have no free foreign currency (or barter goods) for the purchase of oil at the most convenient sources.

In spite of the Arab boycott, Israel's oil market cannot be insulated, and the time has come for a general revision of existing oil prices and policies, and to enlighten the public on this important issue.

Reorganization Plans on General Council Agenda

Mobilizing the Zionist Organization

By ARTHUR SAUL SUPER

THE present meeting of the Zionist General Council was originally scheduled to have been held several months ago. It was to have been a demonstration to arouse world public opinion against the danger of anti-Zionist tendencies in the Soviet Union and her satellite states.

However, the death of Stalin, the dismissal of Beria and the new "liberalization" of Soviet policy which followed (including the resumption of diplomatic relations between Israel and the U.S.S.R.) rendered such a demonstration superfluous and somewhat impracticable. Moreover, second thoughts prevailed when the organizers of the assembly actually sat down to draw up an agenda and began to reflect upon what profitably could come out of a meeting so designed, other than a number of speeches which, of necessity, would have been devoid of practical suggestion and would have been differentiated one from the other only by the passion and personality of the speakers.

The removal of this question from the agenda has thus left the Zionist General Council free to consider pressing problems of the internal re-organization of the World Zionist Organization.

It is not likely that there will be much discussion on ideology as such, nor will there be much time given to a consideration of the relationship between the Zionist movement and the State of Israel from the formal point of view. However, although the Knesset has passed a law giving the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization "status", the question "What next—or what follows?" is almost bound to be raised.

New Forces

Most prominent on the agenda will be the question of the organization of the movement from within. The need has long been felt to refurbish the machinery of the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency in order to provide for the mobilization of new forces on behalf of Israel and their integration into the technical structure of the movement. A plan which is gaining favour is to reform national and local Zionist bodies in order to make room for direct membership of those Jews in the Diaspora who do not wish to enter the movement through any of the Zionist political parties, the only way in which an individual can at present become active in the Zionist movement. One of the plans proposed is to establish territorial or "roof" organizations to which all Zionist parties will belong and which will provide for the affiliation of both individuals and organizations such as social bodies whose members are not political Zionists but are concerned to affiliate to the movement in general.

This proposal reflects a controversy which, rather noticeably, has been agitating the minds of Zionist politicians in recent years. There are those who claim that now that there is a State of Israel, the existence of Zionist parties in the Diaspora linked in some way with their political counterparts in Israel is capable of leading to undue pressures which, in effect, and under certain circumstances, could lead to an infringement of sovereignty. It is also claimed that the removal of parties in the Diaspora might make Zionist membership and affiliation more attractive. To this argument, the advocates of party Zionism answer that without the strong parties, Zionism rapidly would degenerate into a sort of nebulous "Friends of Israel" organization.

They also hold that parties are a means of bringing in new forces to Zionism by a direct appeal which is lacking in the offer of direct membership in general. Thus a Socialist will have a definite ideological point of contact with his Zionist Socialist Party; a religious Jew with the Mizrahi Party, and so forth.

Party Intrigues

To these claims, the advocates of non-party Zionism retort that these arguments were valid in the old days when parties began. Today, they say, parties have become so choked with intrigue and the passionate defence of party lines and advantages, that they repel far more people than they attract. They also claim that the parties have drawn in all the forces that they will ever attract by the means they suggest. The plan that will probably be introduced will be something of a compromise in the form suggested, namely a territorial organization. It is to be hoped that what will emerge will provide the framework whereby the Zionist Movement will grow in membership and increase its prestige and authority.

Meanwhile, the problem of the enlargement of the Jewish Agency Executive also will be a problem of moment. It has long been felt that this body should be made more weighty by the addition of "non-Zionists" who represent strong forces which have assisted in the development of Israel. The problem is how this is to be done; almost everyone agrees on its advisability. The crux of the situation is that the personalities — and in a sense the organizations concerned — have remained outside official Zionism precisely because they have ideological principles which prevent their full identification with the Zionist Organization. Now if they are to be joined to the Jewish Agency Executive, it will be precisely in the discussion and formulation of the most important matters of policy that difficulties rather than solutions are likely to arise; for it is in policy formulation that ideologies are most likely to clash.

One suggestion for overcoming this difficulty is to create a joint body of Zionists and non-Zionists to govern activities not exclusively associated with the building of Israel. That is to say, such a body would not deal with education or *Halutziut* and the controversial question of how to attract youth from Western lands to a pioneering life in Israel. They could, however, help greatly in the political and diplomatic work of the Zionist movement in the Diaspora on behalf of Israel, and certainly in the problem of the final absorption of new immigrants within Israel. One has only to instance the position of Malben, the subsidiary of the American Joint Distribution Committee which will spend over $10m. on hard core cases in Israel this year.

Another vexed question which it is the fixed intention of the Zionist General Council to tackle at this session will be that of the so-called 'double' Shekel. It will be recalled that voting for the Zionist Congress, the supreme parliament of the World Zionist movement is open only to those Jews who purchase a Shekel, a certification of membership in the World Zionist movement which is sold for a nominal sum. Each Shekel in the Diaspora hitherto has counted for one vote, but by a special dispensation, Jews living in Israel had two votes for each Shekel; or rather, their votes counted twice. As membership of the Congress was on the basis of one candidate for so many votes, this gave the *Yishuv* and still gives Israel double representation at the Congress.

Double Shekel

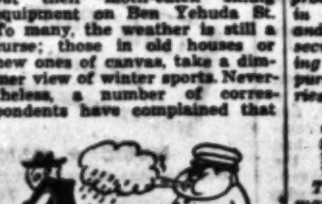
This was obviously logical as long as the *Yishuv* was building. It could then be claimed that it was unfair for Jews who remained in the Diaspora to dictate — for that is what it amounted to — the future of settlers in the Land of Israel purely by majority votes based on the counting of heads.

It is now claimed that since Israel is a State, this consideration no longer applies. If anything, the boot is on the other foot. Now that Israel is a growing State it is the effective influence of World Jewry which has to be safeguarded, and one way to do this will be at least to abolish the double Shekel in the ultimate government of the World Zionist Organization. The trouble is — a plan! On this point a committee has been sitting for so long that it is suspected that the iron has entered into its soul and the Zionist General Council at long last, it is hoped, will be given some hard recommendations to consider.

The problems of immigration also are urgent. On these, one might comment briefly that it is becoming recognized that in spite of all inducements being offered Western immigrants in the form of housing, hostels and other facilities, Jews will only come from the West if impelled by a strong Zionist consciousness. It is because of this that the Zionist General Council will listen with more than formal interest this year to plans for a wide expansion of educational and cultural work in the Diaspora and the demand for a noticeable expansion of the budget for youth and *halutz* training there. As far as emigration is concerned, the solution here would appear to lie in the stabilizing of economic conditions. Since this is inherent in the totality of all that the Jewish Agency is doing in absorption and agricultural development, it will be discussed in the general consideration of the work of the World Zionist Organization during the past year.

KEEPING POSTED

SNOW, unlike Christmas, comes but once every few years or so, and is therefore doubly welcome. The last good fall in Jerusalem was some four winters back, and since then young Jerusalemites have rarely had a chance to heave snowballs at passing *streimels* nor their parents a chance to try out their moth-eaten skiing equipment on Ben Yehuda St. To many, the weather is still a curse; those in old houses or new ones of canvas, take a dimmer view of winter sports. Nevertheless, a number of correspondents have complained that everyone seems to lump the weather troubles together as "the Russians' fault" and criticize the daily press for headlining reports that all the nasty stuff blows directly from the Soviet Union. However, that's what the weatherman says and as far as we can remember he says it in other places as well. North Sea skippers have always claimed that the rough stuff blew out of the Baltic, and some Canadians have recently alleged that atomic experiments on the other side of the North Pole are shifting the ice their way. Anyone who can read Japanese should look up the "Osaka Mainichi Shimbun" during the winter months and he will invariably find that the "blast of dishonourable cold air which hit Tokyo yesterday originated in Siberia, etc." It is obviously all part of the cold war.



•

TEL Avivians complain that it is just as cold and bitter down by the sea shore and they don't even get any snow for fun. Most of the younger generation have never even seen the stuff and have very vague ideas as to its composition. A very young man whose parents have just been lucky enough to get a refrigerator overheard his father remark that it was snowing in the Capital. Rushing over to his mother, he exclaimed, "God is defrosting in Jerusalem!"

•

NEW Yorkers, who are also shivering right now, recently sampled some eggs fried under the rays of the sun in sub-zero temperatures and pronounced them first rate. Adnan Tardici, a Lebanese who is adviser on something or other at the U.N., claims to have invented a solar cooker that can boil, bake and grill. To prove it he set up an aluminum bowl in Central Park last week and cooked four eggs in it. He says he got the idea while watching pilgrims plodding through the Saudi Arabian sand with coal for their cooking fires.

•

A HOT device in the cold war for the protection of local production was revealed this week in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry when a surprised secretary extracted the following note from a thermos flask purchased through the Industries Division of the Ministry:

OPPOSE THE IMPORT OF THERMOS FLASKS SO THAT ISRAEL WORKERS WILL NOT REMAIN UNEMPLOYED!

The note was signed by the manufacturers, a firm in Tel Aviv.

•

THE Knesset guards and ushers are getting another new uniform, although it is only a short time since we noticed them in smart new outfits; shiny buttoned dark green jackets and slacks, a welcome civilian look after the former military-type tunics. Recently a morning paper carried a note saying it was rather bad form for ushers of the Knesset to be so elegant while the country was so much in need of austerity. So the ushers are now getting another new uniform... to give them that "austerity look."

•

WE were holding our sides at Chaplin's performance with his fleas, Phyllis and Henry, during a screening of "Limelight" in Jerusalem last week, when suddenly we heard a man in front of us exclaim, "By my life, I've been bitten by a flea!" A lady sitting next to him, obviously his wife, retorted that it was only his imagination but as we were leaving the cinema, we saw him unbutton his jacket and pull out his shirt before his disbelieving spouse. We then lost sight of him in the crowd, gesticulating wildly.

•

DESPITE the cold and rainy weather a friend of ours from Sde Boker came to see us the other night in Tel Aviv wearing a manfully open shirt. Seeking some internal warmth we repaired to a "Cocktail" bar in Hayarkon St., but were denied access because our friend was not wearing a tie. "Your oldest member (he was celebrating his 67th birthday that evening) would probably have a sharp rejoinder for this," we said. He agreed.

•

FRIENDS of ours took themselves off to a lecture one evening recently, leaving instructions to their young son to lock the door and take out the key. Shivering their way home and looking forward to a warm bed, they found they could not turn the lock because the key had been left on the inside. With the temperature dropping, they banged the door and shutters, but to no avail. Their son and heir was fast asleep. They finally managed to borrow a chair from a neighbour and reach the bathroom window, the shutter of which was happily open. The window was too small for hubby so the half frozen smaller half went through head first and then put her foot through a glass-topped table below. But she was inside. Rushing to the front door, she twisted at the key but it would not budge. In desperation she rattled the door handle . . . and the door opened. The boy had forgotten to lock it.

Today's contributors include: D.M., A.S. and S.S. of Tel Aviv; and F.G. and S.A. of Jerusalem.

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Business Diary

for reasons beyond our control this week's edition will be published only next week, on
DECEMBER 31, 1953.

French Crack Spy Net

By a Special Correspondent

IN one of the largest post-war spyhunting actions, the counter intelligence branches of France's 'Deuxieme Bureau' and the 'Surete Nationale' have cracked one of the most dangerous spyrings operating in France since the end of the Second World War.

The case opened in 1951 when the concierge of a run-down apartment house in a shabby quarter of Paris happened to notice that three bricks in the left wall of a dimly-lit and dingy basement corridor were loose. Taking out the bricks, she saw a small cache with a medium-sized cardboard shoebox. In it were microfilms of all port installations and defences of the new American bases in Bordeaux, St. Nazaire and Rochelle, of 21 American airfields in Eastern France and the Rhine area of Germany, and of three French petroleum refineries.

It took two years for the spycatchers to follow up that clue to their first arrest of an enemy agent: Josef Kubal, a 30-year-old Czech Communist Party member, studying engineering in France. Kubal was under suspicion from the moment the cardboard shoebox was discovered, a dozen agents shadowing him day and night, hoping to catch other members of the spy network, but to no avail.

After two years of fruitless tailing, during which Kubal was permitted to carry on his clandestine activities, he was arrested in a third-rate hotel where he was sleeping on a mattress stuffed with 80 microfilms of military and naval installations, photographs of 218 strategic objects and about 300 secret documents.

Kubal admitted to spying against France, but said he was working on his own, and because of the hole-in-the-wall system it was impossible for him to identify the people or even the country for whom he worked. He declared that he came to France in January 1948, one month before the Communists took over in Czechoslovakia but he was a convinced Party member even then. Two months after the successful Communist *putsch*, a young and very attractive Czech woman, carrying a diplomatic service passport, came to see him in Paris.

She instructed him to collect information on all French strategic objects, mainly ports, airfields and oil installations, and to pass it on through a virtually foolproof system of hole-in-the-wall hiding places in corridors or stairways of old rambling houses, according to a list she gave him, with a series of addresses to be used on the first Sundays and Fridays of every month.

From that moment, Kubal maintains, he never got in touch with his employers. He never received payment for his information, which he collected out of idealism, he declared.

At least 120 French citizens will soon be brought to trial and charged with supplying Kubal with information detrimental to France's security. Among the arrested or investigated — less than half are Communist Party members — several are clerks and accountants in the Ministry of National Defence, fellow engineering students, engineers employed in port construction and harbour development, and many other people with access to secret information which they had passed on to Kubal without receiving any payment.

RAINS FILL NEGEV DAMS

A view of the dam near Shoval, in the Negev, which is rapidly filling with rainwater from surrounding wadis.

Theatre Notes

People of the Book

Habimah: Most Cruel — the King, by Nissim Aloni; Directed by Shraga Friedman; Designed by Moshe Mokady; Music — Ben Zion Orgad; Choreography—Ruth Harris.

FOR a people whose language stems directly from the Bible, whose fundamental study of history and literature is grounded in the Bible, whose political aspirations are based on the Bible and whose lives are lived in the land of the Bible, it is inevitable that its artistic creative impulse fundamentally should be influenced by this inexhaustible wellspring of inspiration. The people of the Book are so human and fault-ridden, and withal so driven by the God-ideal as interpreted by the prophets, that almost every chapter points to a lesson which is applicable to life today.

Habimah, in its commendable policy of presenting locally written drama, presents as its first offering of the season a play by Nissim Aloni, based on the story of the revolt of Jeroboam, which led to the splitting up of the Davidic Kingdom into the two kingdoms of Judah and Israel. 'Most cruel — the King' starts at the point where Jeroboam, having returned from his ten years' exile in Egypt after the death of Solomon, is confronted with the fact that Reheboam who is about to be crowned is a cruel king, ruling a dissatisfied and oppressed people. The story is told in human terms. It deals with the psychological influences which operate, together with the political and social conditions in the country, to force Reheboam into the position of a rebel and to change him from a man seeking justice and peace to another most cruel king.

Nissim Aloni has written an interesting play. He has made the man Jeroboam understandable in the light of his ruthless and ambitious mother and an unhappy love affair. The play holds one's interest throughout, despite the number of long speeches and sermons in which all of the characters indulge. This fault could have been overcome by some judicious editing and cutting which would have speeded up the action considerably. (Nevertheless, considering the weather and the prevalence of germs in the present season there was surprisingly little coughing once each act got into its stride).

Pictorially, this is one of the most gratifying productions I have seen in many a day. The settings have grandeur and beauty, while still keeping an air of simplicity. The costuming, both in colour and design is lovely. No playwright, be he an old hand or new at the job, could have hoped for a finer background for his play.

Competent Direction

Shraga Friedman, one of Habimah's younger members, directed the play with competence and authority. It was well cast, and made remarkably good use of Habimah's special flair for grouping and movement. Nahum Buchman, who played the part of Jeroboam, gave his best performance to date and well deserved the ovation he received on opening night. He gave a sensitive and moving interpretation of the man Jeroboam, who returned from his exile fired by the desire for justice, who is gradually forced into the position of losing his integrity and becoming a tyrant. Shimon Finkel is very good as Reheboam, the dissolute and drunken heir of Solomon, who surrounds himself with sycophantic councillors who help to lead him along the road of cruelty and the subsequent division of the kingdom. While Shraga Friedman directed with authority, this evidently did not reach far enough to control the over-emotionalism of Hanna Rovina as Tsura, the mother of Jeroboam. Rovina is almost a law unto herself in Habimah. She has given some of the best performances which the Hebrew stage has seen, and she has given some that were not so good. Her performance in the present play was definitely among the "not so good."

Tova Pardo, last seen at the Ohel, opens very effectively as Maacha, the beloved of Jeroboam, who has married Reheboam in his absence. Her performance in the first act is good, but as the woman spurned and turned into an avenging fury, she lets herself go a little too much. Haim Amitai as Shimee is acceptable in the part. Shlomo Bertonoff as the reader and scribe was not very good.

Ruth Harris, who was responsible for the choreography, gave us an interesting interpretation of an oriental dance performed by Nira Soslovsky, but the introduction of the dance did little to further the action of the drama itself. It was rather like an interlude which interrupted the narrative. The rest of the cast included Misha Asherov, David Vardi, and a chorus of speaking voices, consisting of Baruch David, Eliezer Plotnik, Gideon Zinger, Shmuel Atzmon, Peretz Halevi, Menachem Golan and Arieh Gershon.

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Readers' Letters

SHUTTERS AND WINDOWS

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir,—In your issue of December 14, Amidar replied to Mr. Greenberg's complaint about his rain-soaked flat by saying that our climate requires shutters on the windows in order to keep rain from coming in. This is definitely wrong — windows should be so constructed and set that no rain can get through. Shutters are intended to protect the house from the sun and against theft. Only the most primitive architecture requires one to live in a dark room on rainy days.

Yours etc.,
ARCHITECT

Haifa, December 14.

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